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SECRETARY, BOARD OF OIL, GAS & MINING

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Attorneys for the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

## BEFORE THE BOARD OF OIL, GAS AND MINING DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES STATE OF UTAH

In the matter of the Request for Agency Action of BERRY PETROLEUM COMPANY, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of LINN Energy, LLC as successor in interest to Berry Petroleum Company, for an order forcepooling the interest of all owners refusing or failing to bear their proportionate share of the costs of drilling and operating the wells located in the drilling and spacing units in the E½ of Section 5 and all of Section 7 in Township 6 South, Range 4 West, USM, Duchesne County, Utah.

## **DIVISION'S REPLY TO**

BERRY PETROLEUM COMPANY'S MOTION TO STRIKE

DIVISION'S RESPONSE TO PROPOSED FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER

Docket No. 2014-012

Cause No. 272-04

Berry Petroleum Company (Berry) through its counsel has asked the Board of Oil, Gas and Mining (Board) to Strike the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining's (Division's) Response to Berry's Proposed Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law and Order (Proposed Order).

The Response is appropriate because the Board requested it, Transcript of Record at 95, it is contemplated by the rules, <u>cf.</u> Utah Admin. Code R. R641-109-100 (2012), and it is necessary

to correct the errors the Division believes remain in the Proposed Order. The Response is in no way prejudicial to Berry. Berry complains that the Division's Response raised the same issues,

authorities, and arguments that the Division raised at the Hearing. Memorandum in Support of

Motion to Strike Division's Response at 2, 3. Berry also complains that the Response is like a

traditional memorandum. Id. at 2–4. The Division feels obligated to provide a thorough

explanation and legal foundation to its positions for the Board's benefit. Berry is not prejudiced

because it can reply and make its arguments. To the extent that Berry desires or feels it needs to

reply, the Division has told Berry that it would join any motion Berry felt was necessary to reply

to the Division's Response.

Similarly, the Division's public filing of its Response, as if it were a pleading, does not

prejudice Berry. The Board abstained from asking that the input be private or nonpublic. And it

would have been improper for the Division to communicate to the Board in some other

nonpublic way.

In conclusion, the Board should deny the Motion to Strike and consider the input it

requested and allow Berry the opportunity to address the issues raised by the Division at the

hearing, which were included in the Division's Response.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 30th day of June, 2014.

Douglas J. Crapo (14620)

Assistant Attorneys General

Attorneys for the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on this 1st day of July, 2014, I caused a true and correct copy of the

foregoing DIVISION'S RESPONSE TO BERRY PETROLEUM COMPANY'S MOTION

TO STRIKE DIVISION'S RESPONSE TO PROPOSED FINDINGS OF FACT,

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER for Docket No. 2014-012, Cause No. 272-04 to be

mailed via E-Mail, and First Class Mail, with postage prepaid, to the following:

HOLLAND & Hart, LLP
A. John Davis
Mark L. Burghardt
222 South Main Street, Suite 2200
Salt Lake City, UT 84101

Michael S. Johnson Assistant Attorney General Utah Board of Oil, Gas & Mining 1594 West North Temple, Suite 300 Salt Lake City, UT 84116 [Via Email]

United States of America °/<sub>o</sub> Bureau of Land Management Utah State Office 440 West 200 South, Suite 500 Salt lake City, Utah 84101

United States of America c/o Ashley National Forest Supervisor's Office 355 North Vernal Ave. Vernal, UT 84078

Terry L. Laudick, Senior Landman Berry Petroleum Company 1999 Broadway Street, Suite 3700 Denver, CO 80202

Steven F. Alder Assistant Attorney General Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining 1594 West North Temple, Suite 300 Salt Lake City, UT 84116 [Via Email]

United States of America Bureau of Land Management Vernal Field Office 170 South 500 East Vernal, UT 84078

Vintage Petroleum, Inc. State Federal Building 502 S. Main, Suite 400 Tulsa, OK 74103 [Undeliverable] The estate of Mary Alice Pendleton Poindexter 4805 Tacoma Blvd. Shreveport, LA 71107 [Undeliverable]

Burlington Resources Oil & Gas Company, LP P.O. Box 51810 Midland, TX 79710

HEP Partners LP 500 W Illinois #100 Midland, TX 79701 [Undeliverable]

Enterprise Gas Company 2727 N. Loop West Houston, TX 77210

Talisman Oil & Gas Co. 5757 Alpha Rd., Suite 920 Dallas, TX 75240 [Undeliverable]

Eagle Ridge Oil & Gas, Inc. 8517 S. 77th E. Place Tulsa, OK 74133 [Undeliverable]

CT Corp Registered Agent for Burton Hawks, Inc. 50 West Broadway, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Salt Lake City, UT 84101 [Undeliverable] Southland Energy Corp. 1710 Fourth National Bank Building 16 West 6th Street Tulsa, OK 74119 [Undeliverable]

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Allen Revocable Trust, created under Agreement dated May 4, 2006 1513 Aylesbury Lane Plano, TX 75075

Julie Amu Cartar